

General Construction:

- The sweater body is knitted from the bottom up.
- The main body is knitted in the round.
- At the armhole, the body splits into the front and back which are knitted separately back and forth.
- Once the front and back are completed the shoulders are joined using the triple needle bind-off technique.
- The collar is knitted from stitches that have been reserved on the front and back neck.
- Sleeves are picked up around the armholes, and knitted in the round down to the cuff.
- Voila – almost no finishing other than working in the ends!



Materials and Sizing:

Yarn: Ryan's Dulaan Avalanche (or other that is pretty chunky)	Gauge: stitches: 10 stitches to 4 inches/10 cm rows: 15 rows to 4 inches/10 cm
Needles: 1 circular, one set dpns, in correct size to get gauge – somewhere between US 10 and 11 (metric 6.5 to 8 mm). You can use a size smaller to knit ribbing, or just use the same needle for entire sweater. If you don't quite get gauge, adjust number of rows knit to get the approximate size in height.	

Fits child	Small Steppe: 6-8 yrs		Large Steppe: 10-13 yrs	
Skeins needed	7 (more if you plan to do stripes)		9 (more if you plan to do stripes)	
Chest	31 inches	77.5 cm	39 inches	97.5 cm
Total height	17	42.5	20	50
Height to beginning of front pattern	10	25	12.5	31
Sleeve opening (height)	7	17.5	7.5	19
Sleeve length	10.25	25.5	15.5	39
Collar height	2.5	6	2.75	7

Knitting Directions: Small (Large)

Body:

1. Cast on 76 (100) stitches. Join and knit k1/p1 rib in the round for 8 rows.
2. Continue knitting in the round in stockinette stitch for 30(38) rows.
3. Divide the stitches evenly into front and back: 38 (50) stitches.

Work Body Front:

4. You will begin creating a placket that is garter stitch in the middle (see photo). For 8(10) rows:
 - o On the right side of the work: knit 38(50);
 - o On the wrong side of the work: purl 13(17), knit 12(16), purl 13(17).

Work Left Body Front:

5. With the right side of work facing you, divide the front evenly into two.
6. Work only the first 19(25) stitches for 16(18) rows as follows:
 - o On the right side of the work: knit 19(25);
 - o On the wrong side of the work: knit 6(8), purl 13(17).

7. When 16(18) rows are completed, do not cast off, keep stitches live on needle. Cut yarn with a sufficiently long tail to use for triple needle bind off (4 to 5 times length of shoulder, 13(17) stitches).

Work Right Body Front:

8. With the right side of work facing you, work the remaining front 19(25) stitches for 16(18) rows as follows:
 - o On the right side of the work: knit 19(25);
 - o On the wrong side of the work: purl 13(17), knit 6(8).
9. When 16(18) rows completed, do not cast off, keep stitches live on needle. Do not cut yarn.

Work Back:

10. Work the remaining back 38(50) stitches in stockinette for 24(28) rows.
11. When back is completed, cut yarn with a sufficiently long tail to use for triple needle bind off (4 to 5 times length of shoulder, 13(17) stitches).

Join shoulders:

12. Turn sweater inside out.
13. Bind off each shoulder, 13(17) stitches, using triple needle technique starting at the armhole opening. You will have to slip stitches from one needle to the other a few times to position your needles correctly for each bind off.
14. Do not completely cast off the final two stitches bound off - leave that last stitch live to incorporate it into your collar.

Knit Collar:

15. Turn sweater "outside" out.
16. After binding off you have left:
 - o 12(16) stitches on the back neck;
 - o 6(8) stitches on the neck of each front placket;
 - o 2 live stitches that you kept from binding shoulders off in previous step.
17. Using the yarn you had not cut on the right front placket, with the front of the sweater facing you:
 - o knit across the live stitches on the right collar front, and the first "shoulder" extra stitch created above;
 - o knit across the back neck stitches, and the second "shoulder" extra stitch created above;
 - o knit across the left collar front stitches.
 - o *Note. You may have to add 1 or 2 additional stitches each side of neck where front and back collar connect to fill in the gaps created from binding off the shoulders. Make these stitches by knitting into existing body front/back neck stitches.*
18. Continue in garter stitch for 12(14) rows across all collar stitches.
19. Cast off the collar stitches. Casting off knitwise with the inside of the collar facing you makes for a pretty finish.

Knit Sleeves:

20. For each sleeve, beginning at bottom of armhole, pick up stitches around each arm opening as follows:
 - o Pick up 18(22) stitches on each side of the armhole: pick up 3, skip 1, fill in one extra as needed. Total 36(44) stitches for sleeve;
 - o Mark the first stitch for your rows under the arm.
21. Knit in the round, for 6 rows (7 including the picked up row).
22. Next row decrease 2 stitches at the underarm by: k1, k2tog, knit until 3 stitches left, (slip 1, k1, pssso), k1. 34(42) stitches left.
23. Continue knitting and decreasing 2 stitches under the arm every 4th row until you have 22(24) stitches left.
24. Knit straight until your sleeve measures 8.5(13) inches.
25. Knit sleeve cuff in k1, p1 ribbing for 8 rows.
26. Cast off cuff.
27. Repeat for next sleeve.

Finishing:

28. Work in ends.

Enjoy the warm fuzzy feeling that yet another child will be warm!

Option: The Steppe Vest

(Picture coming soon)

Work the Sweater as for steps (!) 1 through 19, and finish the collar.

Pick up stitches as in step 20.

Knit these stitches in k1, p1 ribbing for 4 rows, then cast off.

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Version 10-21-06.